**WASHINGTON, DC**- Today, Congressman Jim Costa (D-Bakersfield) announced that a US Department of Health and Human Services grant for electronic health record implementation totaling \$1,865,625 has been awarded to Clinica Sierra Vista in Bakersfield, CA. Funding was made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

"Quality health care is vital for all of our Valley's residents," Costa said "Clinica Sierra Vista serves a large number of Valley residents who are uninsured or underinsured and plays a vital role in our Valley health safety net. I have heard time and again from my constituents throughout my district how important Clinica Sierra Vista is to their families. This grant will allow them to build upon on the world-class care they already provide."

Electronic Health Records are an important tool to improve the quality of health care provided in health centers and improve individual and population health. The grant provides funding to Health Center Controlled Networks, like Clinica Sierra Vista, to implement a fully functioning Electronic Health Record (EHR).